

Cornerstone Stud to Stand the Leading European First Season Sire

In a deal brokered by BBA Ireland Agents Johnny McKeever and Chris Blomeley, Tally-Ho Stud and Cornerstone Stud have reached an agreement to stand ZEBEDEE, the precocious son of INVINCIBLE SPIRIT, in Australia from 2015.

With **31** individual winners in his first crop, including **IVAWOOD**, nominee for the Cartier 2-Year-Old Colt of the Year Award, and one of the favourites for the English 2000 Guineas next May, **ZEBEDEE** (ex Cozy Maria) finished the European flat racing season four wins clear of his nearest rival and is now leading Freshman sire of 2-Year-Olds by individual winners, and 2nd in the overall listing behind another Tally-Ho Stud sire, **KODIAC**.

As a racehorse **ZEBEDEE** was a six time 2YO winner who retired with only one loss in his seven start career. His stud future was assured with Richard Hannon training him to take out the Flying Childers (G2) and Molecomb Stakes (G3) double at Doncaster and Goodwood respectively.

Speaking after his win in the 1000m Flying Childers, Hannon said: "We knew back in March that **ZEBEDEE** was going to be our first winner on the turf this season – he was that precocious... he has never stopped improving and has only been beaten once in seven races. Not many two-year-olds win six, but he is so laid-back both at home and when he goes to the races".

ZEBEDEE will join a Cornerstone Stud stallion roster that is continuing to build its profile with current resident sires responsible for six individual winners at the recent VRC Melbourne Cup Carnival, one more than any other stud in the Australasia. Cornerstone Stud manager Sam Hayes is already looking forward to 2015.

"**ZEBEDEE** forced his way onto our radar half way through the European flat season with the sheer quantity of runners making the track and winning. After visiting Tally-Ho Stud in September with Johnny McKeever, and inspecting the stallion, we knew **ZEBEDEE** was the right fit and will make for an exciting addition to our stallion roster at Cornerstone Stud," Hayes explained.

The recent success of Australia's leading First Season Sire for 2013/14, **I AM INVINCIBLE**, points to a successful future for the **GREEN DESERT/ INVINCIBLE SPIRIT** bloodlines in Australia.

"**GOOD JOURNEY, DALAKHANI** and **HUSSONET** will be flag bearers for the farm in many Carnivals to come however there was room on our roster, indeed in Southern Australia, for a precocious 2YO sire. Not since **WITHOUT FEAR** have we stood a stallion capable of producing 30 individual 2YO winners in a season... that is a most impressive first season performance," Hayes enthused.

"Australia lacks locally bred Classic horses and we have responded with the likes of **DALAKHANI** and **GOOD JOURNEY**, however you can't turn your back on explosive 2YO speed and precocity. **ZEBEDEE** delivers that in spades," Hayes concluded.

ZEBEDEE will join **DALAKHANI, HUSSONET, AMBIDEXTER** and **GOOD JOURNEY** at Cornerstone Stud in 2015. Fees to be announced in March 2015.